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Communist Capabilities

Selected World Powers

The outline method of procedure is, in itself, ridiculous. Why should any analyst have strained himself, for instance, to try to apply an outline which might have fitted pretty well for France where the Communists got votes in the millions, to---say---Denmark. Note the portion on Spanish Morocco where the outline doesn't fit any better than a \$50,000 US income tax blank would for the annual declaration of a Melanesian from Malaita.

Even more applicable in the matter of making the study unconvincing is the matter of information. If we don't know anything about the Communist party of \_\_\_\_\_, then why, for \_\_\_\_\_'s sake not say so! Sometimes we do as in "extent of influence unknown" or something of the sort, but when we go on from that and say that the Party may possibly have 10,000 members or that it is quite conceivable that they could muster up a para-military formation of 50,000 at need<sup>a</sup> a doubt as to the source of information is legitimate. Nowhere, in other words, did I feel that the writers of these annexes knew what they were talking about. They may have, but the way their conclusions were expressed didn't lend conviction.

I have cluttered up the margins of the annexes with penciled comments which should probably be erased before we are returned to the Branch be-

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cause many of them could well seem captious. What they refer to though---  
bad grammar, impossible construction, and vague wording---could well have  
been corrected before the paper got to this office. ~~Them~~ Such editing  
wouldn't have made too much difference though because so much reliance  
in the original thinking was placed on the cliché and the indefinite word.  
I haven't the text here at the moment because it is, after all Top Secret  
and might well jeopardize the very existence of the US government if one  
of the guards came in on an inspection tour, but I can remember a few:  
"nuisance value", "orthodox", "oriented toward", ---I think my vacuum is  
sliding into an abyss.